



## Weather

Showers of blessings.  
Cloudy, chance of rain.  
High 79. Low 63.  
Details, page A-18

25 Cents

# The Houston Post

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FINAL EDITION

## Crack-related calls squeeze EMS dollars

By S.K. BARDWELL  
OF THE HOUSTON POST STAFF

Federal dollars help pay the soldiers and buy the ammunition in Houston's war on drugs, but provide no help for the medics who pick up and patch up the war's casualties.

Police point to 1985 as the year crack hit Houston in a big way, and blame the drug directly or indirectly for whopping increases each year since in burglaries, robberies,

assaults, homicides and even traffic accidents.

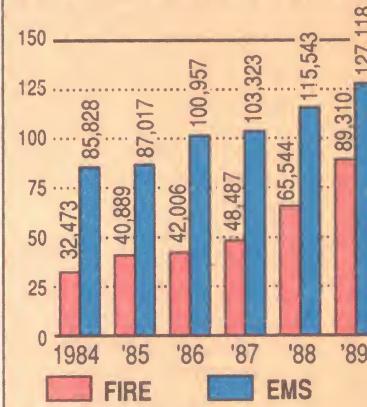
Increases in the number of calls for emergency medical assistance responded to by the Houston Fire Department's emergency medical services division are just as significant, although less publicized.

In 1989, the fire department responded to 127,118 calls for emergency medical assistance. It is a record high most department offi-

Please see DRUGS, A-9

## HFD CALLS

Number of calls dispatched by the Houston Fire Department for fires and for emergency services are on the rise. Scale is in thousands.



## Official to urge Trinity evacuation

### 7,000 live in plain of swelling river

By LESLIE LODDEKE  
OF THE HOUSTON POST STAFF

The Liberty County emergency management coordinator will recommend today the beginning of a massive, voluntary evacuation of low-lying homes along the rain-swollen Trinity River in preparation for "the worst flood since 1908."

About 7,000 people living in the flood plain near the Trinity ultimately will be affected to some degree by floodwater, said Jim Mitchum, Liberty County emergency management coordinator. Residents of two Liberty County subdivisions and the city of Dayton Lakes already have problems due to rising floodwater.

"We're looking for the bulk of the water to get here between the 16th and 19th of May," said Mitchum. "We're talking about some serious water."

Mitchum said he planned to ask the county judge to issue the evacuation order at a commissioners'

court meeting today to prompt about 300-400 people to leave their homes. He said he expected to make recommendations for additional evacuations later this week as the threat affects a greater number of people.

Plans have been made with the American Red Cross to operate two shelters converted from fire stations on the east and west sides of the Trinity, said Mitchum.

From a helicopter hovering over the Lake Livingston dam, Mitchum surveyed the extraordinary amount of water released, Sunday due to

Please see FLOODING, A-9

## John Paul beatifies 5 in Mexico

Salinas welcomes pontiff on first day of 8-day tour

ASSOCIATED PRESS

MEXICO CITY — Pope John Paul II, beginning a mission to strengthen his church and improve relations with Mexico, beatified the country's most revered Indian on Sunday and urged Mexicans to emulate him in their fight to improve society.

"You cannot . . . remain indifferent before the suffering of your brothers, before poverty, corruption, the outrages against truth and human rights," said the pontiff at a Mass.

The eight-day visit to Mexico is John Paul's 47th trip outside Italy as pope, his 10th to Latin America and his second to Mexico.

At the modern, tent-shaped Sanctuary of the Virgin of Guadalupe, the pope beatified Juan Diego, a humble Indian honored as the man to whom the Virgin appeared in 1531.

John Paul also beatified a 19th-century priest and three Indians known as the Child Martyrs of Tlaxcala, who died almost 450 years ago. Beatification is a step toward possible sainthood.

During the flight from Rome to Mexico, the pope told reporters that he urges

Please see POPE, A-9



Pope John Paul II was greeted by Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari shortly after the pontiff's arrival in Mexico City for an eight-day visit Sunday afternoon.

## Reed tells of savage beatings

### Former hostage recalls failed escape attempts

ASSOCIATED PRESS

ARLINGTON, Va. — Freed hostage Frank Reed said Sunday his Islamic kidnappers beat him so savagely that they broke his nose, jaw and ribs and tried to break his feet with iron rods after he tried unsuccessfully to escape twice. He was put in solitary confinement for more than two years.

"Thank God they didn't kill me," he said. "I was one of their pet whackers."

He said his guards hit him more than 200 times in the head, body and feet after his first attempt to gain freedom and that he suffered minor fractures in his feet.

"They tried to break my feet," he said. "They hit my feet many times with iron rods and my feet had been slightly broken."

Two days later, he tried to escape again and was hit in the back with such force that his kidneys bled, he said.

"This kind of treatment went on and on and on for a long time," he said. "Then sometime about a year later, one pig of a man who constantly haggled me broke my ribs, kicked my ribs in on the right side. I'd managed somehow to push them back lying on my back."

Despite the pain and "hell," he went through, he said, "I did everything in my power not to cry out and not let them think they were ever going to get a single advantage on me. And I didn't."

Reed said he was chained either to a wall or radiator and that the first time he sat up on his own was when he was released after 44 months in captivity. He said he and other hostages slept on thin foam rubber mattresses.

Reed said he lay on his back for the more than 3½ years except when he was exercising, eating or making trips to the toilet.

"We were blindfolded 24 hours a day. We slept with our blindfolds on because if we had any collateral with our keepers, we didn't want to lose it by letting them see our eyes."

"We were kept in very familiar places to you, apartment houses for the most part, in bedrooms. Our bed-

“Thank God they didn't kill me. I was one of their pet whackers.”

— Frank Reed

## Group of 7 agrees to boost IMF by 50%

ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Economic chiefs from the world's richest nations agreed Sunday to boost the capacity of the International Monetary Fund to meet growing demand for its loans in Eastern Europe and continue its longstanding commitment to developing nations in the Third World.

Officials "agreed that a 50 percent increase in IMF (resources) would provide the fund with the resources to fulfill its central responsibilities in the world economy," the Group of Seven said in a communique released after a day-long meet-

ing in the Capitol.

The group is composed of finance ministers and central bank heads of the world's seven leading industrial nations: the United States, Japan, West Germany, Great Britain, France, Canada and Italy.

Currency markets, often the focus of Group of Seven gatherings, received less attention. Exchange rates have been relatively stable since the ministers' last meeting, April 7 in Paris.

At that time, the group expressed concern about the "undesirable consequences" of the declining yen, which had

fallen more than 10 percent against the dollar from the start of the year.

In Sunday's statement, the officials said they "noted with satisfaction the recent stability of exchange markets" but in a passage similar to the April communique, they said they "remained of the view that the present level may have undesirable consequences for the global adjustment process."

A weak yen helps boost the U.S. trade deficit by making American goods more expensive in Japan and Japanese prod-

Please see IMF, A-8



### Welcome mat out at Phoebe's Place

If you missed it yesterday, don't worry. Our new comic strip, Phoebe's Place, begins its daily run today — and it's a real hoot. Comics, D-8.

### Good morning . . .

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## TOM KENNEDY SAYS . . .

To make things even worse, tires are like rabbits. They multiply. A-17.

Classified ads ..... 940-0000

## HSA official fuming over group's anti-smoking literature at Dome

BY PETE BREWTON  
OF THE HOUSTON POST STAFF

A Houston City Council member and a local doctor were stopped by the Houston Sports Association from handing out anti-smoking literature at a Cinco de Mayo event on the Astrodome parking lot Sunday.

Michael Coakley, director of customer service and security for HSA, threatened to have City Councilman Dale Gorczynski and Dr. Alan Blum, a family practitioner and chairman of an anti-smoking group known as Doctors Ought to Care, arrested for trespassing on "private property."

HSA, whose principal owner is New Jersey businessman John McMullen, leases the Astrodome complex from Harris County. HSA was subleasing part of its parking lot for the

Cinco de Mayo event to Rincon Productions, according to Coakley. The three products whose logos and posters were displayed around the event were Camel cigarettes, which are made by R.J. Reynolds tobacco company, Miller Lite beer, which is produced by a subsidiary of Philip Morris, and Pepsi Cola.

Coakley said he was told by a Rincon official that Rincon had no comment about the matter.

Blum, Gorczynski, and several others were handing out anti-smoking literature outside the gates of the event, but inside the Astrodome parking lot. They were stopped by Coakley after they had been doing so for less

Please see DOME, A-9



Dr. Alan Blum crusades against smoking at Cinco de Mayo festivities in the Astrodome Sunday.

Please see REED, A-8